

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-81

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: ATLANTIC RELATIONS: SEPTEMBER 5 MEETING WITH SYG LUNS

SUMMARY. SYG LUNS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO RUMSFELD AND BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE THAT EC COUNTRIES WERE TENDING TOWARDS AGREEMENT ON A MINIMAL UK DRAFT ON SECURITY ASPECTS OF ATLANTIC RELATIONS (SEE USNATO 3787). LUNS INQUIRED WETHER IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR HIM TO PROPOSE A MORE AMBITIOUS TEXT PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 10 MEETING OF EC FOREIGN MINISTERS. DE STAERCKE ADVISED AGAINST THIS ACTION AND ADVISED THAT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE IN FACT CONSIDERING ONLY A BRITISH TEXT ON US-EC RELATIONS, WHICH WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE TEXT INTRODUCED BY THE UK IN NATO. END SUMMARY

1. ON SEPTEMBER 5 SYG LUNS, ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY SYG PANSA AND LUNS' CHIEF DU CABINET VAN CAMPEN, CALLED MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD AND BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE TO DISCUSS CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ATLANTIC RELATIONS. LUNS STATED THAT HIS ASSESSMENT WAS THAT THERE WOULD BE A DECLARATION TO BE SIGNED BY THE NINE AND THE US WHICH WOULD DEAL WITH ECONOMIC MATTERS AND ANOTHER DECLARATION TO BE AGREED BY THE FIFTEEN NATO COUNTRIES. HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT THE FRENCH HAD ACCEPTED A BRITISH DRAFT RELATING TO SECURITY MATTERS (USNATO 3787) AND THAT THIS DRAFT WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AT THEIR SEPTEMBER 10 MEETING IN COPENHAGEN. LUNS BELIEVED THIS UK DRAFT WAS TOO THIN AND HE HAD IN MIND SENDING A LENGTHIER AND MORE BROAD-GUAGED DRAFT DECLARATION TO NATO AMBASSADORS AND THEIR SECRET

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FOREIGN MINISTERS. LUNS' INCLINATION WAS TO SEND AROUND SUCH A DRAFT PRIOR TO THE SEPTEMBER 10 MEETING. HE FELT THAT IF HE WAITED UNTIL AFTER THE NINE HAD ENDORSED THE UK TEXT, HIS MOVE WOULD BE SEEN AS A CRITICISM OF THE STANCE TAKEN BY THE EC

COUNTRIES.

2. DE STAERCKE STRONGLY OPPOSED LUNS' SUGGESTION. DE STAERCKE MAINTAINED THAT THE TEXT WHICH THE NINE MIGHT ACCEPT IN THE COPENHAGEN MEETING WAS NOT THE BRITISH TEXT ON SECURITY MATTERS WHICH HAD BEEN CIRCULATED IN NATO, IT WAS RATHER AN OUTLINE FOR A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES. DE STAERCKE BELIEVED THAT THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE NINE WOULD CONSIDER LUNS' PROPOSAL IN COPENHAGEN WAS VERY SLIM AND THAT LUNS' PRESTIGE WOULD BE DAMAGED IF THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MET WITHOUT TAKING COGNIZANCE OF HIS INITIATIVE.

3. RUMSFELD OBSERVED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON SUCH A QUESTION, OBVIOUSLY, AND THAT HE WOULD WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT, BUT THAT ON A PERSONAL BASIS POSSIBLY LUNS' PURPOSES MIGHT BE BETTER SERVED BY HOLDING FOR NOW TO A POSITION AS A SENIOR EUROPEAN STATESMAN, CONSIDERING THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES INVOLVED, RATHER THAN BY PROPOSING A "LUNS DRAFT". RUMSFELD ALSO STATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO THINK FURTHER ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF LUNS' PROPOSED ACTIONS ON US OBJECTIVES IN ATLANTIC RELATIONS.

4. DE STAERCKE BRIEFLY DESCRIBED HIS OWN AND DAVIGNON'S THINKING ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A US-EC DECLARATION AND A DECLARATION RELATING TO THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. DE STAERCKE SAID THAT HIS AND DAVIGNON'S APPROACH WAS TO TRY TO CREATE A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE TWO DECLARATIONS BY INCLUDING OVERLAPPING MATERIAL IN THE TWO DRAFTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE EC DRAFT MIGHT INCLUDE REFERENCE TO SECURITY AND THE "NATO" DRAFT MIGHT INCLUDE ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. DE STAERCKE SAID THAT THE GERMANS AND DUTCH BELIEVED THAT THERE IS TOO LITTLE SUBSTANCE IN THE BRITISH DRAFT DECLARATION WHICH THE NINE ARE CONSIDERING.

5. RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE US ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE COPENHAGEN MEETING, RUMSFELD STATED HE EXPECTED THE US WOULD REVIEW THE BIDDING AFTER SEEING WHAT RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED IN THE COPENHAGEN MEETING. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT ANY RESULT
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WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO CONFRONT THE US WITH A UNIFIED DECISION BY THE NINE. DE STAERCKE SAID THAT THE NINE INTENDED TO SEND THE PRESIDENT OF THE EC COUNCIL (CURRENTLY THE DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER) TO WASHINGTON TO BRIEF THE PRESIDENT AND DR. KISSINGER AFTER THE COPENHAGEN MEETING.

6. DE STAERCKE ASKED WHAT THE STATUS OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO EUROPE WAS AT THIS TIME. RUMSFELD REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE ANY RECENT WORD BY ASSUMED A JUDGEMENT WOULD BE MADE ON THAT AFTER THE COPENHAGEN MEETING HAD PROVIDED SOME INDICATION OF WHAT THE PROSPECTS WOULD BE FOR ACHIEVING SOMETHING USEFUL. DE STAERCKE WONDERED WHETHER THE PRESIDENT WOULD WANT TO MEET WITH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, ASKING SPECIFICALLY

WETHER THE PRESIDENT WOULD WANT TO MEET WITH PAPADOPOULOS
AND CAETANO.

7. COMMENT: LUNS APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN AT LEAST TEMPORARILY
DISSUADED FROM THE IDEA OF SENDING HIS DRAFT DECLARATION TO
NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS PRIOR TO THE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10,
EC MEETING. IT IS POSSIBLE HOWEVER THAT HE MAY WISH TO RETURN
TO THE PROJECT IN THE COMING DAYS. I EXPECT TO HAVE A FURTHER
MEETING WITH LUNS SHORTLY BEFORE NOON ON SEPTEMBER 6.
RUMSFELD.

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